Reply to Office Action Dated: February 10, 2005

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed on February 10, 2005. Claims 1-9 are pending in the application with Claim 1 being in independent form. By the present amendment, the drawings have been replaced, and the abstract and Claims 1, 6 and 8 have been amended. No new matter or issues are believed

I. Objection to the Drawings

to be introduced by the amendments.

The drawings were objected. The drawings have been replaced with a new replacement sheet which is being submitted herewith. The replacement sheet amended the drawings, specifically figure 1, in manner which is believed to obviate the rejection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection with respect to the drawings is respectfully requested.

II. Objection to the Specification

The abstract was objected for referencing figure 2. The abstract has been amended to remove the reference to figure 2. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection with respect to the abstract is respectfully requested.

The specification was further objected to due to the arrangement thereof. It is respectfully submitted that the MPEP does not require headings. MPEP Section 608.01(a) only suggests the use of headings. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully decline the addition of headings in the specification and further respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

Reply to Office Action Dated: February 10, 2005

The specification was further objected due to the use of the term "envelope" and for mis-numbering. The specification has been amended whereby the term "envelope" has been replaced with the term "housing." The mis-numbering has also been corrected. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections with respect to the specification is respectfully requested.

III. Objection to Claims 1-9

Claims 1-9 were objected to because of informalities. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended by deleting the word "characterizing." Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

IV. Rejection of Claims 1-9

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Snelten et al.; Claims 1-5 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' admission of the prior art in view of Duerr; Claims 1-3, 6, 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Glowinski et al. in view of Atalar. Applicants' independent Claim 1 has been amended in an effort to overcome the cited rejections.

Amended Claim 1 recites:

An invasive device (17) that is intended to be introduced into an object (7) that is to be imaged by means of an MRI apparatus, said invasive device comprising a distal end (18) and is provided with a housing (19) that extends to the distal end, with a circuit (20) that is arranged at the area of the distal end, and also with an electrical connection conductor (21) that is connected to the circuit and extends through the housing, the connection conductor (21) comprises mutually separated segments (22-i), each of which is shorter than a predetermined value, and that the separation between the segments is realized by way of frequency-dependent separating elements (23-i) constructed as cores

Reply to Office Action Dated: February 10, 2005

(25, 26) wound on a carrier (24) in such a manner that magnetic fields generated by current in the cores (25, 26) compensate one another, said elements (23-i) constitute a conductor for LF currents and an isolator for RF alternating current. (Emphasis added).

None of the cited references disclose or suggest Applicants' newly added limitations to Claim 1. In particular, none of the cited references discloses or suggest "separation between the segments is realized by way of frequency-dependent separating elements (23-i) constructed as cores (25, 26) wound on a carrier (24) in such a manner that magnetic fields generated by current in the cores (25, 26) compensate one another," as recited by Applicants' Claim 1.

At best, the Duerr reference cited by the Examiner for disclosing "an inner conductor and an outer jacket arranged in the form of loops, thereby forming bifilar coils," does not disclose or suggest Applicants' newly added limitations. Duerr does not disclose or suggest "separation between the segments is realized by way of frequency-dependent separating elements (23-i) constructed as cores (25, 26) wound on a carrier (24) in such a manner that magnetic fields generated by current in the cores (25, 26) compensate one another," as recited by Applicants' Claim 1. (Emphasis added) Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections with respect to Claim 1 and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-9 depend from Claim 1 and therefore include the limitations of Claim 1.

Accordingly, for the same reasons given for Claim 1, Claims 2-9 are believed to contain patentable subject matter. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections with respect to Claims 2-9 and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Reply to Office Action Dated: February 10, 2005

V. Conclusions

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims presently pending in the application, namely, Claims 1-9, are believed to be in condition for allowance and patentably distinguishable over the art of record.

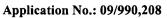
If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call John Vodopia, Esq., Intellectual Property Counsel, at 914-333-9627.

Respectfully submitted,

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Reply to Office Action Dated: February 10, 2005



IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the drawings with the drawings shown by the attached replacement sheet.

Atty. Docket: 1320-105 (NL 000656)